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THE JERUSALEM POST

TUNE TO THE BACKWEB THE JERUSALEM POST CHANNEL

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English-speaking crisis counselors Health, Page 5

46 for Shaq in Lakers victory Sports, Page 9

Fun (and funny) photography On Camera, Page 7

Index Business8 Crossword11 Health5 Movies/TV10 Opinion6 Sports9



Christians clash in church A policeman separates Syrian Orthodox Christians from Armenian Christians during fistfights in Jerusalem's Church of the Holy Sepulcher yesterday. Syrian Church officials said its adherents thought the Armenians were trying to bar their entry. (AP)

Terrorists kill 2 in Wadi Kelt

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

The Israel Police suspects the murders of two women hikers, whose bodies were found with multiple stab wounds in Wadi Kelt on Friday, were carried out by Palestinian terrorists.

Palestinian Authority in Jericho to aid in the search for the terrorists, and Army Radio said Palestinian policemen were fanning out in Jericho, where PA Chairman

Yasser Arafat was speeding the weekend, and its neighboring refugee camps and villages.

"We are speaking of an area where there were murders in the past, which we believe were carried out for nationalist motives," said Judea and Samaria police chief Cmdr. Yossi Sidbon.

Sidbon said the murders were nationally motivated, an assertion that was strengthened after autopsies determined the two had not been raped. He added it appears the murders had been premeditated.

Ami Giat, an off-duty IDF officer, said he found the bodies and telephoned police. "We saw signs of dragging. There were signs that they were stabbed, certainly their necks were slashed," Giat said.

According to Judea and Samaria police spokesman Opher Sivan, "The two partially clothed bodies were found lying 80 meters apart."

Sivan refused to comment on reports the women's throats had been slashed, but said there were multiple stab wounds and signs of a struggle. He added that their belongings were scattered around the site and it appeared certain items were missing, but he refused to elaborate.

Sivan said Zavitzky and Kastiel

'Wadi Kelt is like our back yard,' Page 2

The two, Hagit Zavitzky of Kfar Adumim and Liat Kastiel of Holon, were both 23 years old.

Shimon Ben-Shimol of Kfar Adumim, who saw the two bodies, told Israel Television that one of the women's throats had been slashed. "There was a trail of blood leading down into the wadi," he said, adding that it appeared the bodies had been dragged down the hill and thrown into the water.

Over the weekend, police and IDF troops searched the Judean Desert hills around Wadi Kelt, about half-way between Jerusalem and the Palestinian-controlled city of Jericho, for clues to the murders.

The Israel Police asked the

Tour restrictions

The IDF reiterated last night that tours in the Jordan Valley and Judea and Samaria need to receive prior approval from security authorities. Individual touring is prohibited and groups should consist of at least 15 people.

All tours are restricted to organized tour sites and are approved either through field schools or the Central Command's tour coordinating office. That office can be reached at 02-530-5252.

The IDF said that certain security and safety restrictions will be enforced. All groups must have at least one armed person, carry a first-aid kit and water and be equipped with communication capabilities.

Arieh O'Sullivan

Continued on Page 2

Israel condemns UN vote on Har Homa

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies

NEW YORK — The UN General Assembly, meeting in an emergency special session on Friday, condemned Israel for the Har Homa building project and demanded an immediate halt to the construction of the "new settlement in Jebel Abu Ghneim."

Israel immediately attacked the resolution and the UN session that produced it. "Israel categorically rejects the one-sided resolution adopted by this session, which stands in contradiction to the peace process and its principles," David Peleg, the Israeli charge d'affaires, said Friday.

He also assailed, for the second time, the PLO observer for "incitement to violence."

Foreign Minister David Levy responded to the vote by saying he hoped the resolution would someday be rescinded, as was the resolution equating Zionism with racism.

"Many in the world don't see Israel as sovereign in Jerusalem," Levy told Army Radio yesterday. "Even if this anti-Israel resolution hadn't passed now, it would have passed in another year or two. This is a battle we will have to keep fighting."

Although the votes of the assembly are not binding, they indicate the depth of international anger and unease with the Har Homa project. The tally was 134-3, with 11 abstentions. The US and Micronesia joined Israel in opposing the resolution, which also called for the "cessation of all forms of assistance and support for illegal Israeli activities" in the "occupied Palestinian territory."

Germany, breaking with the European Union, abstained. The other abstentions were Australia, Canada, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, Norway, Romania, Rwanda and Uruguay.

Friday's vote, the second on Har Homa in the assembly since

March 13, came from an emergency session that was requested by Qatar on March 31. It was the first such session since 1982 and only the 10th since the Korean War.

Peleg said it was unwarranted. "There was no procedural or substantive justification for the convening of the 'special emergency session' concerning the construction of a residential neighborhood in Jerusalem," he said.

The US does not support the Har Homa project, but had objected to the session on grounds that Israeli-Palestinian disputes should be resolved through direct negotiations. Further, said US Ambassador Bill Richardson, the debate "can only harden the positions of both sides and make their work even more difficult."

Many delegations want Israel to suspend building on Har Homa, "but they see it is not going to happen," Peleg said in an interview.

The emergency session also was a slap at the Security Council, where the US, on March 7 and March 21, vetoed comparable resolutions on Har Homa. Richardson said the resolution set "a dangerous precedent" by infringing on the council's authority.

The question of Har Homa is expected to rise again, as the assembly asked Secretary-General Kofi Annan to monitor the situation and report to the assembly within two months.

The UN debates began over the building of 6,500 housing units.

Continued on Page 10

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NEWS

in brief

FBI: B'nai B'rith package was terrorism

FBI terrorism experts in Washington are investigating a mysterious red substance that led authorities to quarantine 108 people inside the international headquarters of B'nai B'rith for more than eight hours on Thursday. FBI officials said the gelatinous material was sent in a petri dish mailed to the building. The foul-smelling package was discovered in the mail room.

The container was labeled "anthrax," an apparent misspelling of the deadly bacterial disease, anthrax, and "yersinia," the bacterium that causes Bubonic plague. Initial analysis concluded the suspicious substance was not toxic. AP

Ultralight pilot killed in Dead Sea crash

Ari Ein-Gad, 41, of Givat Avni in the Lower Galilee, was killed yesterday when he hit an electricity line while piloting an ultralight aircraft and then crashed into the Dead Sea. His son, 14, was also in the plane, suffered light injuries.

Ein-Gad was participating in a "flying day" sponsored by Israel's ultralight club, from the North to the Arava. At around noon, when he was about 1 km north of Ein Bokek, Ein-Gad hit a power line, lost control of his plane and crashed into the sea. Vacationers pulled Ben-Gad out of the water, but medical personnel who arrived on the scene were unable to revive him. Iim

Woman killed in road accident

Sisi Badusa, 20, of Reut, was killed before dawn yesterday near Modi'in when she lost control of her car and crashed into a tree. Police are trying to determine why she veered off the road.

Ten people were injured - three of them seriously, including an 18-month-old baby - in a head-on collision between two cars on the Jerusalem-Ma'aleh Adumim road last night. Rescue forces brought the injured to Jerusalem hospitals.

Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled was injured yesterday when he fell off his bicycle while riding at his kibbutz, Beit Hashita. He was admitted to Ha'emek Hospital in Afula with broken ribs and a torn ligament in his shoulder.

From Sunday through Thursday last week, 21 people were killed on the roads in 647 traffic accidents. Iim

We deeply regret to announce the death of

MIRIAM ABRAMSKI
(née Nirenstein)

On April 25, after a prolonged illness

Chlmen, Jenny, Jack, Lenore,
AJ, Sasha, Kolya, Rob,
Tania, Maia,
and her immediate loving family

In deep sorrow we announce the death of our beloved

ZVI SHELEF

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, April 27, 1997
(20 Nisan 5757)Mourning by:
Joan Shelef, Naomi and Ze'ev Shelef-Kaufman,
Dalia Shelef and Jane Stewart, Ophra Shelef,
Tamar and Arif Shelef-Lavy,
Ronit and Muki Shneidman, Ziv Shelef
Jean and Ginton Shelef and family
Rachel and Uzi Steinhilffler and family

With great sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

MOLLY SHERMAN

She will be sadly missed by

Her loving husband: Sel
Her children: Moshe and Stephanie Sherman
Lainie and Barry Klein
Sorel and Nachum Elzevovics
Yosel and Matty Sherman

Dear grandchildren

Sisters: Marlene Briskin, Riva Rotenberg

Brother: Marvin Schreiber

The funeral will be held today, April 27, 1997, at 10:30 a.m. at Har Hamenuhot
Cemetery, gathering at Beit Hessed, opposite Sarah Herzog Hospital
Stive at 7 Diskin, Apt. 43, JerusalemThe unveiling of the tombstone
(hakamat matzeva) for

RUBEN (Ruby) CARL

will take place at Har Hamenuhot on
Wednesday, April 30, 1997 (23 Nisan 5757).
We will meet near the main gate at 10:30 a.m.Atarah Gur
Nechama Carl
Raphael Carl

We will unveil the headstone of

NATHAN SILVER ז"ל

Wednesday, April 30, 1997, at 11:00 a.m.
at the Eretz HaHayim Cemetery,
near Beit Shemesh, AACI section.
Transportation will be available
at 10:00 a.m. from
Moreshet Yisrael Synagogue, 4 Agron Street,
Jerusalem

Lily Silver and Family

Faulty grenade injures 2 soldiers

By JON IMMANUEL and AREH O'SULLIVAN

Two IDF soldiers were lightly injured when a concussion grenade went off during an operation early Friday in the West Bank village of Tzurif. Military sources said the grenade was not thrown at them, and apparently went off due to a malfunction.

The IDF is investigating the incident. Later Friday, two petrol bombs were hurled at border policemen in the village, which was the base of the Hamas cell recently found responsible for the deaths of 12 Israelis.

The border policemen opened fire into the air to halt the attack on them. No one was injured from the firebombs, the army said. Tzurif, east of Bethlehem, remains a closed military zone and its 15,000 residents are barred from leaving.

Tzurif residents claim that soldiers have

broken windows in at least 60 houses and shot bullets into at least 100 solar heaters.

The villagers say they are being punished for crimes they have not committed and are under the longest curfew since the Oslo accords were signed in September 1993.

They also say three people have died after being delayed at checkpoints for more than an hour on their way to hospital and other people have been beaten for being outdoors late when the curfew was reimposed after brief relaxations.

In one case, Bilal Arar, 22, accused of stone-throwing, testified to human rights activist Bassem Eid that he was hit on the back with a helmet by one border policeman while another held his head between his legs. An investigation is pending into the soldiers' actions, but the two have not been suspended, the Border Police spokesman said.

In another case, a 70-year-old man with a serious heart condition and gangrene being rushed to hospital was not allowed through a checkpoint for almost two hours. Ali Abu Reish, a Tzurif resident, physician and a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, was present at the checkpoint.

Abu Reish said yesterday that soldiers fired 15 rubber bullets into the engine of his car, presumably to deter him from trying to leave the village.

Lawyer Hitham Kadi said soldiers "fired 15 rubber bullets at my house." He claimed that hundreds of solar water heaters were shot, causing water to leak out and leading to water shortages. "Only one UNRWA vehicle bringing in food has entered," he said.

In the past five days, as the curfew - but not the closure - has been relaxed, children have returned to school and several high school and

university teachers who are unable to leave the village have taken up teaching responsibilities in place of teachers who live outside Tzurif and cannot enter.

"The Hamas people are in jail now, but what about the rest of the village. We all live in a big jail now," said Kadi, a human rights lawyer.

Eid, director of the Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group, noted that of the four Hamas members whose houses have been destroyed, three of them were arrested by the Palestinian Preventive Security. "This means that Israel carried out the punishment even though the PA carried out the arrests and interrogations. This is illegal."

Israel arrested 45 people in Tzurif, of whom 12 have been sent to Megiddo Prison for administrative detention and the remainder are being held in other jails, Eid said.

TERRORISTS

Continued from Page 1

were last seen leaving Kfar Adumim at noon on Thursday. He said the two were not carrying any backpacks and had told no one of their plans to go on a hike. "The parents thought they had gone to attend a show," he said.

According to police officer Eli Aharoni, the two women were killed close to where their bodies were discovered. Their bodies had apparently been thrown into the water at the bottom of the wadi to obscure the tracks of their murderers.

Police had originally said the two victims were teen-age immigrants from the former Soviet Union and it was only Friday night that their bodies were identified.

Col. Yigal, commander of the IDF forces in the region, said the Palestinians were cooperating. "There is a certain level of cooperation in the affair between the Israeli security service and the Palestinian Police," Yigal said, but refused to elaborate on the Palestinian activity.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed shock at the murders, but called on the country's citizens not to interrupt their holiday plans, while strictly following safety rules on excursions.

Immediately after hearing news of the bodies' discovery, Col. Jibril Rajoub, head of the Palestinian Preventive Security Service, contacted Arafat in Jericho and reported on the murder. He told Arafat the Palestinian Police had opened an investigation, but that it was mainly focused on intelligence gathering, Iim reported.

A senior Palestinian security official told Iim that so far they had not arrested anyone. He said that much of the effort was to try to see if any new faces had appeared in town over the past few days, perhaps the murderers seeking sanctuary. In an attempt to deflect accusations, the official suggested that local Beduin may have been involved in the murders.

Five Beduin living in the area were questioned by security forces, hoping they may have seen the terrorists or could give other details that may assist the investigation.

Zavitzky's older brother, On, said his sister had returned last month from an extended tour abroad. "This was a continuation of her tour," he said, adding he had taken her to Massada on Wednesday and they were to have gone to a rock concert on the Dead Sea.

"We are aware of the dangers," he told Army Radio. "We live in a very hostile area and they [the Palestinians] don't love us. We know the wadi and its proximity to Jericho. We know that righteous people don't live there."

Meanwhile, the IDF Central Command reiterated last night that anyone wishing to hike in the area should travel in groups of no less than 15. It stated that anyone planning to hike in the Jordan Valley or in Judea and Samaria must coordinate with the IDF beforehand and stick to marked trails.

This is the third terrorist attack in Wadi Kelt since 1993. Eran Behar, 23, and Dror Forer, 25, both of Jerusalem, were shot and stabbed to death there in October 1993. In July 1995, Ohad Bacharach, 18, of Beit El, and Ori Shabor, 20, of Ra'anana, were shot and their throats slit when hiking in the wadi.

'PA has asked
Albright to visit'

A top official in the Palestinian Authority said yesterday the Palestinians have asked Washington to send Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to the region to jump-start the peace process.

"If the Americans are really willing to achieve a resolution to get out of the crisis, then they have to show their commitment," said Tayeb Abdel Rahim, secretary of the Palestinian Cabinet. "We have called upon the US to bring negotiations to a level above [US Middle East envoy] Dennis Ross and send Mrs. Albright," he said. (AP)



Rehov Bar-Ilan strife continues

A policeman pushes back haredi demonstrators who tried to block Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan yesterday by marching in the street and throwing garbage and stones. Despite the protests, police succeeded in keeping the road open. The stone-throwing caused no damage and no one was hurt. One man was arrested. (Reuters)

'Wadi Kelt is like our backyard'

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

"For us, Wadi Kelt is the same as going out into your backyard," On Zavitzky, Hagit Zavitzky's 31-year-old brother, said last night.

"What can I tell you about Hagit? She loved nature, she loved to hike, she was such a creative and friendly person, who always sought the positive side in everything," he said.

Hagit, the daughter of Tamar and Yosef, grew up in Bnei Yehuda in the Golan Heights. In 1990 the family decided to move to Kfar Adumim, a mixed secular and religious settlement not far from Jericho. She served in the Minorities Unit in the army.

"She loved the unit and got on well with the Druze and Beduin soldiers and even learned Arabic," said On, adding that soldiers from the unit stayed in contact and invited her to weddings and celebrations.

"She loved to play the piano and wrote and composed many songs," said On.

Hagit met Liat Kastiel at the Arava border crossing, where she worked after completing her military service, he said.

Last month she returned from a 13-month trip overseas, during which she visited South America and traveled the US from coast to coast. Her twin sister Ayelet was also on an overseas trip and is now returning from Cuba to attend her sister's funeral.

"She was bursting with energy and had even visited Beersheba to find out details about studying philosophy and Jewish studies at the university, On said.

Shortly after she returned from her overseas trip, Hagit resumed contact with her friend Liat.

"We thought they were going to a concert at the Dead Sea," he said. "Everyone in Kfar Adumim goes for walks in Wadi Kelt."

"Liat was the youngest twin sister," Dolly, her older sister, told Channel 1, with tears running down her face. "I always thought she was too good for this world.

she was always willing to help people, she was friendly, naive, but believed in everyone," she said.

Liat had registered at the Hebrew University, where she planned to study anthropology and theater.

"She returned safe and sound from her trip, she came home and look what happens. This country eats up its inhabitants," said Dolly.

On, who lives in the settlement of Alon, near Kfar Adumim said Hagit had so many plans since she returned from her overseas trip.

"We haven't even seen all the films she took on her trip yet," he said.

Hagit Zavitzky is to be buried on Tuesday. Funeral details for Liat Kastiel were not announced last night.

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

The Gershon H. Gordon Faculty of Social Sciences
The Department of Psychologytake pleasure in inviting you to
the lecture ofDr. Sharlene Bird
Department of Psychology
New York University, School of MedicineUnderstanding Sex Therapy and its Applications
The lecture will be delivered in English.on Wednesday, 30 April 1997, at 4:00 p.m. Room 110,
Dan David Classroom Building, Tel Aviv University, Ramat Aviv

Entrance through Ramincaanu Gate (4)

MUNICIPALITY OF JERUSALEM
CEREMONY DEPARTMENTThe Mayor of Jerusalem
Ehud Olmert M.K.
will confer the title
Neeman Yerushalaim
(Honorary Fellow of Jerusalem)
on **Charles H. Bendheim**The ceremony will take place on
Thursday, May 1, 1997
at 7:00 p.m.
at City Hall, 1 Safra Square,
JerusalemFamily members and friends are
cordially invitedCNN
LOST JERUSALEM

The world weather reports on CNN give the capital city of each country - with one exception: Jerusalem. Whilst the temperatures of Tel Aviv are quoted, our capital Jerusalem is conspicuously absent. Our members and friends are requested to write to the headquarters of CNN in USA, and inform them of Jerusalem's whereabouts.

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Turkey gov't teeters as ministers quit

By JONATHAN LYONS

ANKARA (Reuters) - Two conservative Turkish ministers yesterday announced their resignations, dealing a body blow to the Islamist-led coalition just hours before a showdown with the secularist army chiefs.

"He will hand in his resignation to the prime minister shortly," an aide to Health Minister Yildirim Aktuna said. Trade and Industry Minister Yalim Erez said in a statement that he too would step down.

The ministers had openly denounced Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, modern Turkey's first Islamist leader, for failing to implement demands from the army for a crackdown on religious activism.

The announcements turned up the heat on the coalition, already showing signs of waning in front of a political onslaught led by the staunchly secularist army brass.

Erez slammed the 10-month-old coalition for raising doubts about what many Turks see as their European vocation.

"Turkey has turned into a country that does not know where it is going internationally. It has yet to choose between East and West," his statement said.

Erbakan has presided over a series of setbacks in NATO member Turkey's bid to join the European Union. And his efforts for closer relations with Turkey's Moslem neighbors have also borne little fruit.

The armed forces, leading a charge by Turkey's elites, have demanded a broad crackdown at home on what they see as the creeping Islamization of life under Erbakan.

Those demands, outlined two months ago but so far largely ignored by Erbakan, were expected to be the focus of last night's session of the National Security



Necmettin Erbakan (Reuters)

Council (NSC), where top force commanders wield a majority of votes.

The commanders said earlier they had prepared dossiers for the Council on alleged anti-secularist activities, designed to bolster their case against the Islamists.

"We will give the reports. It is up to the council members to make the assessment themselves,"

NSC general secretary Ilhan Kilic told reporters when asked about the meeting's agenda.

The armed forces, the country's most respected institution, have ousted three governments since 1960 but are reluctant to stage another coup for fear of damaging Turkey's image abroad.

Top of the generals' list of 18 anti-Islamist demands is a call for educational reform that would require students to attend eight years of secular schooling - rather than the current five years - before electing optional Koranic training.

Other elements include enforcement of existing bans on traditional Islamic dress, limits on anti-secularist media and restrictions on the secretive Moslem orders.

Erbakan's Welfare Party, which draws many of its cadres from the religious schools, is particularly opposed to the education reform, fearing a sharp downturn in enrollment in religious institutions.

But many in the junior partner True Path Party, including U.S.-educated leader Tansu Ciller, back increased mandatory schooling. Erbakan and Ciller held more than two hours of talks Friday but were unable to break the impasse.

Turkish tanks strike Kurds in Iraq

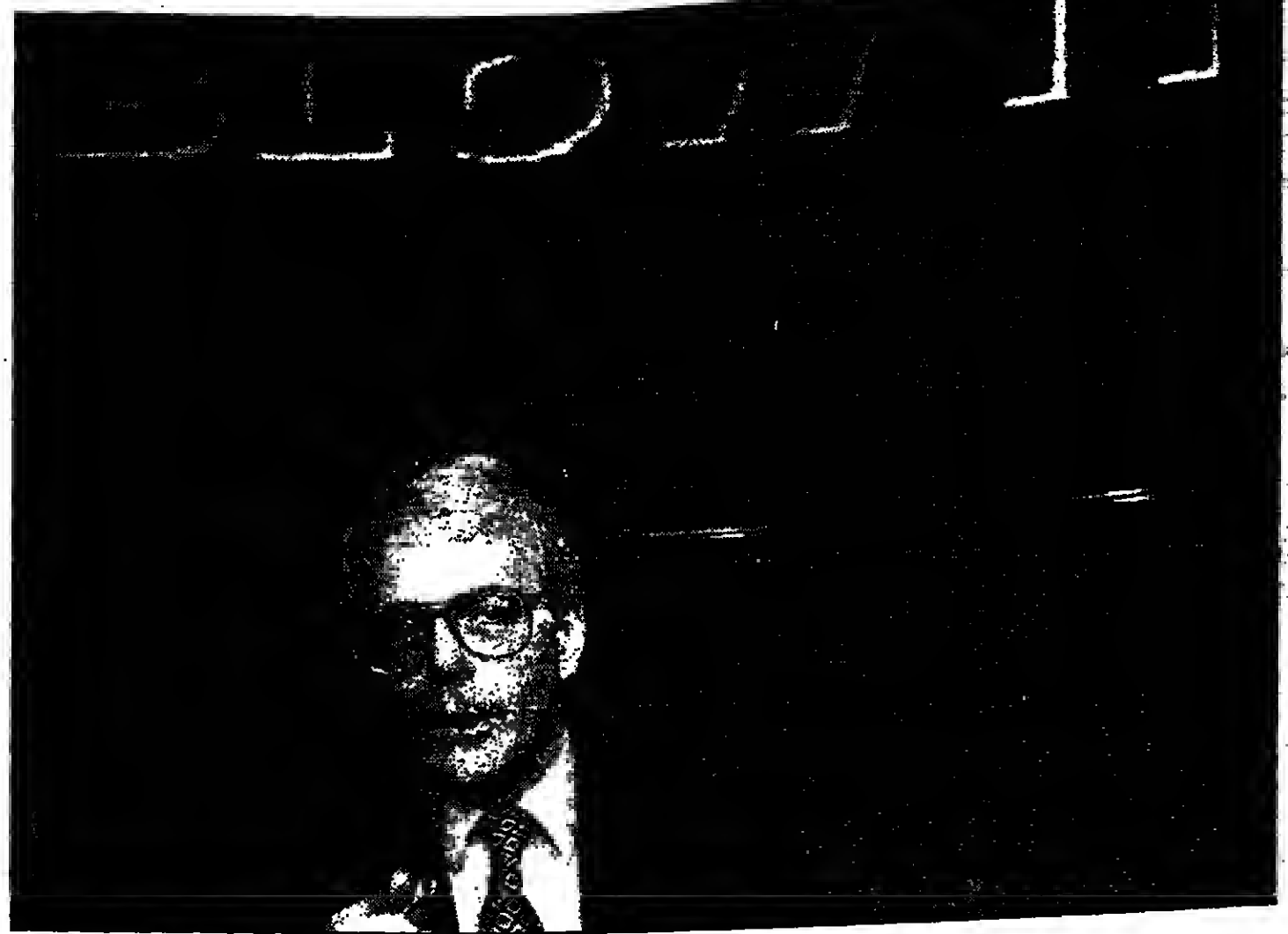
ANKARA (AP) - Some 130 Turkish tanks have crossed into northern Iraq for a major spring offensive against Kurdish rebels, a Kurdish daily said yesterday.

Kurdish rebels, fighting for autonomy within Turkey, use bases in northern Iraq to stage hit-and-run attacks.

The tanks crossed the border Thursday to secure roads for troops to use, the daily *Demokrat* said.

Several other major dailies reported the troop deployment along Iraq-Turkish border.

The office of general staff denied an offensive was about although it confirmed troop movements which it said were aimed at "countering Kurdish rebel infiltrations," the Anatolia news agency reported.



UK Prime Minister John Major addresses a press conference in London yesterday.

UK parties turn up election heat

LONDON (Reuters) - With only five days to go to Britain's general elections, the two main parties stepped up their increasingly bitter campaigns yesterday, trading charges that the other could not be trusted in power.

The opposition Labor Party, striving to maintain a large opinion poll lead, hammered away at what it sees as a key weakness of the ruling Conservatives - voters' fears that it could put tax on food and other essentials.

But Prime Minister John Major warned that the vibrant economy his party had created would disappear if Labor's Tony Blair replaced him after

May 1, raising public spending, introducing a national minimum wage and giving trade unions greater powers.

He told a morning news conference that a Blair victory could mean "our economic miracle gone, the lowest taxes of major European countries gone, the lowest unemployment gone, low inflation, low mortgages gone."

The two parties united on only one thing - their determination not to allow the Irish Republican Army to disrupt Thursday's poll.

Following a spate of incidents on the British mainland, the government has sent election officials instructions on how to deal

with any bomb threats they may receive.

An opinion poll in the *Daily Telegraph* showed Labor - vying to win power for the first time in 18 years - still 16 points ahead of the Conservatives, unchanged from Thursday.

The Conservatives dismiss the published polls, claiming that on the doorsteps the election is a far narrower race.

There was also a minor embarrassment for the Conservatives when the *Daily Mirror* revealed deputy prime minister Michael Heseltine's private charity had illegally given £1,000 (NIS 5,500) to a Conservative ball.

Quake hits Los Angeles

SIMI VALLEY, California (AP) - A moderate earthquake rumbled across Southern California early yesterday, waking slumbering residents and knocking things off shelves. No injuries or major damage were reported.

Several smaller earthquakes followed the initial quake, which hit at 3:37 a.m. All were considered aftershocks of the devastating January 1994 Northridge quake, a 6.7-magnitude shocker that left 72 dead and caused \$25 billion in

damage. Yesterday's 5.0-magnitude quake hit was followed by a 4.0 quake, said Steve Bryant, seismologist at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. Four smaller earthquakes followed.

Residents across a wide section of the Los Angeles area reported feeling the quake, and firefighters were put on alert.

There have been 10 aftershocks of 5.0-magnitude or greater since the Northridge earthquake.

Nazi guard to be deported from US

DETROIT (AP) - A judge ordered the deportation of a man accused of covering up his past as a Nazi death camp guard.

Ferdinand Hammer, 75, was stripped of his US citizenship last year. He admitted he was a member of the German army's Waffen SS, but denied being a guard at concentration camps.

Judge Michael Joseph Creppy Friday ordered him deported to Croatia, where he was born.

Hammer's attorney, William Bufalino II, said he wasn't surprised by the ruling.

"We expected Judge Creppy would ignore the actual facts and deal with allegations that were unsubstantiated," he said.

During a hearing in March, government attorneys said Hammer had covered up his role in World War II as a guard at five concentration camps.

Supporters described him as a truthful and reluctant German soldier who never served at a concentration camp, much less harmed Jews.

UN racism report causes Koran dispute

GENEVA (Reuters) - Officials said Friday the UN investigator on racism had been asked to take "corrective action" after fierce criticism from Islamic countries of a paragraph referring to the Koran in the investigator's annual report.

The request, from the chairman of the UN Human Rights Commission, did not specify the kind of action investigator Maurice Glele-Ahanhanzo of Benin should take.

"However, the implication was that he should do something to satisfy the countries that found the paragraph offensive to Islam and the Koran," said one diplomat.

The paragraph was an extract from an Israeli government review of antisemitic trends around the world which Glele-Ahanhanzo, a lawyer, cited at length in his report. It read: "The use of Christian and secular European antisemitism motifs in Moslem publications is on the rise, yet at the same time Moslem extremists are turning increasingly to their own religious sources, first and foremost the Koran as a primary anti-Jewish source."

Islamic countries on the commission objected to the phrasing, and the body eventually agreed by consensus that the paragraph should not have been included in the report.

The commission, despite reservations by Western members including the United States, also agreed after fierce debate to "express indignation and protest" at the inclusion of "such an offensive reference to Islam and the Holy Koran." And it requested the chairman, Miroslav Somol of the Czech republic, to ask Glele-Ahanhanzo "to take corrective action in response to this decision." When the row broke out on the last day of the commission's session, Western delegations and some from eastern Europe argued that Glele-Ahanhanzo had included extracts from other reports that they did not like but they accepted that was part of his job.

But, diplomats said, when it became clear the dispute could block passage of an overall resolution condemning racism they agreed to go along with the consensus on condition the investigator was not specifically asked to remove the paragraph.

Couple fined for Gingrich phone-tap

JACKSONVILLE, Florida (AP) - A couple has been ordered to pay \$1,000 in fines for illegally tapping a cellular phone call in which US House Speaker Newt Gingrich talked about his ethics problems.

John and Alice Martin said they would take out a bank loan to pay the fines.

The couple held hands in court Friday as their lawyer asked for a small fine, saying they had only \$300 in their bank account.

They each could have faced fines of up to \$5,000. The Martins, self-described political fans, pleaded guilty Friday to single charges of using a radio scanner to intercept a cellular telephone call.

"Our entire life changed one day," Mrs. Martin said after a judge fined them \$500 apiece. Martin, a school maintenance worker, and his wife, a teacher's aide, were on a shopping trip to Lake City and listening to a handheld scanner at the end of December.

When they recognized the House Speaker's voice, they pulled into a church parking lot and began taping it.

The recording, which the Martins say they turned over to US Rep. James McDermott, the ranking Democrat on the House Ethics Committee, caused an uproar in Washington.

Milan bomb casts election pall

MILAN (Reuters) - A bomb blast damaged Milan city hall on Friday ahead of local elections in which the post of mayor of Italy's financial capital will be the biggest prize.

The dawn explosion blew a hole

in the back wall of the city hall and caused some damage to the council chamber itself as well as shattering windows in adjacent buildings, police said.

No one was injured but Interior Minister Giorgio Napolitano said the device, which consisted of gunpowder and bolts packed into a steel container and left on a windowsill, had been powerful enough to kill.

"It shows that at this moment there are hotbeds of violence in

Italian society that we have to confront," he told reporters.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.

It was carried out on the anniversary of Italy's 1945 liberation from Nazi German occupation and the remnants of Italian Fascist dictatorship at the end of World War II.

Politicians from across the spectrum said the choice of date and the timing ahead of today's municipal elections in Milan and more than 1,000 other towns and cities appeared to be an act of intimidation.

Prime Minister Romano Prodi visited the scene and also noted the coincidence of the attack with the anniversary, marked in Milan by a march by 30,000 people, and today's vote.


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Hand it over or the goose gets it!

TORONTO (Reuters) - Police were looking this weekend for a man who walked into a donut shop with a Canada goose and threatened to harm the bird unless someone gave him some cash.

"He said, 'Give me some money or I'll kill the goose,'" Sgt. Steve Sheppard said of the incident which occurred Thursday.

Sheppard said a female customer at the store tried to convince the man to release the bird but gave in when he threatened to wring the goose's neck in front of her.

The woman walked to a nearby bank machine and withdrew an undisclosed amount of money.

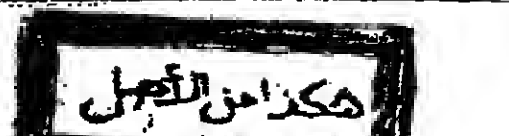
After she handed over the cash, the bandit gave up the goose and escaped from the store.

The bird was turned-over to the humane society.

Police speculated the man picked up the goose from a nearby park, where the birds are regular visitors.

If caught, the man could be charged with extortion and cruelty to animals, among other charges.

"Who knows? There might be something under the Migratory Birds Act that we could use," Sheppard said.



Meeting the health needs of Russian immigrants

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Immigrants from the former Soviet Union — numbering over 700,000 since the end of 1989 — now constitute such a large chunk of the population that any trend in this sector affects the entire country. Researchers at the IDC-Brookdale Institute of Gerontology and Human Development have produced an interesting research report focusing on immigrants from the CIS in the health system.

Nurit Nirel, Bruce Rosen, Revital Gross, Ayelet Berg and Dan Yuval examined a number of studies on the use of health services, hospital patients and attitudes of the working-age immigrant population and reached a number of conclusions about how newcomers from the CIS relate to the health system, which is very different from the one they knew in their previous homeland. The fact that medical services in the former Soviet Union have been in great distress for years, lacking even basic life-saving and -protecting equipment, caused many new immigrants (olim) to arrive with untreated chronic conditions, and health damaged due to years of inadequate preventive medicine, unhealthy diets and inadequate exercise.

CIS immigrants over the age of 44 assessed their health as being less satisfactory than veteran Israelis described their own condition. Nearly half of the olim said they had a chronic disease, handicap or limitation compared to 30% of veteran Israelis. The authors raise the possibility that part of this pessimistic self-assessment of their health derives from emotional strains connected to difficulties in adjusting to a new country.

A Central Bureau of Statistics study shows that heart disease and hypertension are much more common among immigrants than in the veteran Israeli population, who have a higher rate of asthma than the olim. The rates of emotional distress, kidney disease and diabetes are somewhat higher among the immigrants, but long-time Israelis are more likely to suffer from ulcers. Most of the olim who said they had mental strains they couldn't cope with alone did not, however, seek help.

Contrary to what is widely believed, the immigrants tend to use local health services less than veteran Israelis. They visit family doctors and nurses less, and are less likely to seek specialty medical and hospital services than veteran Israelis. Two out of five reported that they needed a dentist for an acute problem during the previous half year but didn't go to one, mainly because of the high costs of dental care, which aren't covered by the national health insurance system. They also call for an ambulance less frequently, even when they need one, apparently out of fear that their health fund won't cover the expenses.

However, the longer they live here, the more the pattern of medical-care use resembles those of long-time Israelis. Very few of the women immigrants have undergone a Pap smear to detect cervical cancer or had a breast exam or mammogram to detect breast cancer. The authors note that doctors should stress the importance of preventive medicine among their immigrant patients and offer such care even if they don't request it.

Younger immigrants change their place of residence much more frequently than older olim, mainly because they tend to find new jobs, so those under 44 were less likely to have a permanent family doctor in their new location. With fewer having their own car, most had to reach a doctor by bus or other means of public transportation. Once they got to the clinic, most didn't complain about undue waiting or inconvenient reception hours.

The immigrants' satisfaction with their health fund, however, was significantly lower than that of veteran Israelis: only 63% said they were pleased or very pleased, compared to 85% of long-time residents.

The Meuhedet health fund received the highest marks, with 94% satisfied among both sectors, followed by Maccabi and Leumit (91% to 94% among veterans and 81% to 88% among olim). The immigrants said they were much less satisfied with Kupat Holim Clalit (only 46% happy with the health fund compared to 82% of the veteran Israelis).

The immigrants' choice of an insurer was influenced mainly by



Many immigrants arrived with untreated chronic conditions due to poor medical services in the former Soviet Union. (Zeev Ackerman)

word-of-mouth advice from other olim, and they were more likely to join Maccabi and Leumit than Clalit.

The newcomers also generally had less knowledge about the health system than the veterans, and didn't know how to "navigate" their way through it. But they were well aware that under the new health insurance system they they could choose their health fund without being restricted.

Having a Russian-speaking physician was important to half the immigrants; the reason was not only the ease of communication, but they believed doctors who came from the old country would be much more likely to do house calls when their patients were ill. Half the immigrant women preferred having a female gynecologist, which is common in the CIS.

Even when a doctor spoke the same language, immigrants tended to feel they received inadequate explanations from their physician

about treatment and medications. Doctors in the CIS, despite generally primitive conditions, were regarded as having given "more personal treatment" than Israeli doctors. Although they praised the "hotel" aspects of hospitalization, many newcomers felt they had been discharged prematurely.

The private medical market is still small among new immigrants from the CIS, largely because they can't afford it and don't have to become paying patients to find a doctor who speaks their language; there are plenty of Russian-speaking physicians in the public health system.

The Brookdale researchers say their findings about the "unique problems of CIS immigrants as consumers of health care can contribute to decision-making about planning health services in the future, as well as to make health services for immigrants more responsive to their unique needs and characteristics."

Crisis counseling for English-speakers

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Having a life crisis is nothing to be ashamed of: it can result from the loss of a loved one, a sudden bout with illness, victimization by a crime, suffering a road accident, a divorce, a dismissal or having witnessed a traumatic event. Crises hit almost everyone at some time in life, and many people have to face a personal upheaval every few years.

"Crisis counselors deal with normal people going through acute trouble," explains Prof. Joshua Ritchie, a senior pediatrician, family physician and infectious-disease expert who has divided his time over the past 30 years between Israel and the US and has now established the non-profit Institute for Crisis Counseling in Jerusalem.

An empathic, religious Jew, Ritchie, who has recently returned to live here for the third time in his varied career, has noted that there is a gap in the social-services infrastructure: English-speakers and hard-core men have no place to turn for round-the-clock emotional support in a crisis. In addition, he found no institution training professionals who wanted to voluntarily upgrade their skills as crisis counselors in a variety of fields and jobs.

Ritchie, who was born in Philadelphia and spent his early childhood in New York before moving with his family to Phoenix, Arizona, studied at the University of California at Berkeley, received his medical degree from the University of California at San Francisco and studied specialties at New York's Albert Einstein Medical School.

He has had a peripatetic existence, moving from one satisfying and exciting job to another. These include acting as director of the student health service at Berkeley, as chief pediatric resident at the University of California, teaching at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, serving as the first medical director of Netanya's Laniado Hospital, helping to found Moshav Modi'in (as a disciple of the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach) and working in pediatrics at Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot — plus helping his wife to raise five children (three of whom live here).

Returning to Jerusalem in 1995 and enjoying an early-retirement pension, Ritchie decided to develop an aspect of his practice which has been his forte for a long time: caring about people.

"As a physician, I've always felt deeply about my patients. I was taught in medical school to look at the patient in a family context, as a psycho-spiritual entity. How can one inform them that they have a serious illness, or tell someone that a loved one has died, and then walk away without helping them to cope? If a doctor triggers a life crisis, by the mere fact that he is doing his job, then certainly helping the patient and his family to deal with it is also part of his job." Ritchie, who himself has known serious illness (he has recovered from kidney cancer), says the doctor-patient relationship is

often neglected in Israel.

While many local physicians may claim to be too pressed by the demands of their work to have time for this extra assignment, Ritchie counters that ministering to one's patient's emotional needs and treating him with courtesy and dignity don't have to take much time at all.

"In fact, doing this part of the work can actually save time in unnecessary medical treatment. Doctors suffer 'burnout' if they don't do their job in a complete way. If you carry out your work with a full heart, to the best of your ability and get help from a team of the best people, you won't have reason to regret."

THIS HUMANISTIC approach has led Ritchie to find his niche in crisis intervention. With small grants from two US donors (the Refuah and the New Tudor Foundations), he has established his institute at 24 Rebov Bayit Vegan in Jerusalem (tel/fax 02-



Joshua Ritchie: The doctor-patient relationship is often neglected in Israel.

643-6771).

Over 200 teachers, social workers, psychologists, rabbis, school counselors and other professionals attended the institute's inaugural symposium at Beit Agon recently. The featured speaker at the inaugural symposium was Prof. Gerald Caplan, author of *The Elements of Crisis Intervention* and a world-renowned expert in the field.

Some 30 professionals are taking a 40-hour intensive, English-speaking course (paying NIS 980 in tuition to cover expenses) on crisis counseling at Beit Agon on the Hebrew University's Givat Ram campus; 30 more are expected to complete a second course by the fall.

Impressed by the quality and content of the lectures by Ritchie and some of the top crisis-counseling experts in Israel (Dr. Danny Brom, Dr. Gary Quinn and Debbie Gross), the Education Ministry has recognized the course for employees seeking training upgrades, and the Hebrew University is subsidizing participation by a staffer.

A Hebrew-language crisis-counseling course is due to start in the fall. The large majority of those in the current training course are women; about 60% are observant Jews.

"This just happened; our course does not have a religious theme," explains Ritchie. "Many English-speakers in Jerusalem are observant. Some of the participants are

hardi rabbis who, coming from abroad, don't object to being in a class with women. But if we find demand for a Hebrew-language course among hardi rabbis who are upset about this, we would run some courses with a [sex-segregated] *meitza* so they would feel comfortable," he continues.

Although various hot-line organizations, such as ERAN (Emotional First Aid) and Ozen Kashevet, have instituted training courses for their volunteers, they do not train outsiders working in other public or private institutions, says Ritchie, who says there is an urgent need for the kind of counselors that his institute trains.

Ritchie's course is very practical. It consists of lectures with question-and-answer sessions, demonstrations, practice exercises and working through scenarios to help participants hone their skills in guiding individuals through crisis intervention therapy.

Although there is no promise that graduates will get jobs as crisis counselors, many in related fields seek to improve their skills. Others will volunteer for Ritchie's two hot lines, which he hopes will be established within several months in Jerusalem and eventually through crisis intervention therapy.

"The ideal would be to establish a walk-in center for those who need face-to-face help," he suggests. But this would depend on adequate funding. Even the hot lines couldn't function only with volunteers; they would need some full-time paid professionals to ensure continuity and direction.

English-speaking residents and tourists will be targeted by one hot line; Orthodox men will have their own, following the success of the religious women's hot line operating out of Jerusalem's Sbaare Zedek Hospital and directed by Debbie Gross. (This on-line crisis center fields calls mostly about family problems, including physical and emotional abuse and even rape.)

But religious — especially hardi — men have been neglected, claims Ritchie, who himself wears a black kippa and side-curl and identifies himself as a bassid of the Amsbinover Rebbe.

Prominent hardi rabbis have given Ritchie their warm endorsement of the proposed hot line, he says. "They don't feel at all threatened by it, even though rabbis traditionally provide counseling as well. Anyone who does a good deed doesn't fear competition," says Ritchie, who seeks to complement existing services and help those groups that don't have a suitable address today.

"It has been estimated that there are 100 million personal life crises a year in the US alone. I am speaking of normal people who are temporarily disoriented and become partially dysfunctional due to their personal crisis," he says. "Most of these people can come out of it in up to two months, but with proper help, they can get out from under the crisis more quickly and with fewer scars."

HEALTH SCAN

New therapy for diabetics with gangrene

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Diabetics whose blood circulation is so poor that their feet develop gangrene and osteomyelitis and who consequently face limb amputation, can be helped by fly maggots that eat away necrotic tissue, allowing new layers of healthy tissue to cover the wound.

This unorthodox but potentially successful therapy offered to patients at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem by parasitologists at the affiliated Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School, was reported on in *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical

Association. The team, headed by parasitologist Dr. Kosta Mumcuoglu, provided doctors with larvae of the sheep blowfly, *Phaenicia sericata*, for treatment of five elderly diabetic patients whose gangrene had not improved with antibiotic therapy.

Despite severe pain and the danger of blood poisoning, they refused to have their limbs amputated. The patients nevertheless agreed to undergo maggot therapy twice a week.

Sterile larvae were applied to the wound and replaced about twice a week. In the most seriously affected patient, the blackened, necrotic tissue around the toes and

on the soles of the feet detached from the healthy tissues at the end of four months; during the last three months, the maggots had removed the remaining infected tissue. The pain disappeared and the patient was able to walk without discomfort. The other patients, who had relatively superficial gangrene, completed their therapy in a month.

The idea of using maggots to remove gangrenous tissue did not originate at Hadassah; the possibility was first observed by Napoleon's chief military physician and then later by the chief medical officer in the US Civil War. It was used until the 1950s, but

when antibiotics and surgical techniques became available, the use of fly larvae was abandoned. With the development of bacterial strains resistant to antibiotics, doctors thought of returning to the parasitic technique, but only for those patients who didn't respond to any other therapy.

It can also be used for burns, sores, chronic bone infections and pus-filled boils. The main shortcomings of using maggots are the psychological and aesthetic problems of patients feeling they're being "eaten alive" by parasites. But the larvae's freedom of action is limited by bandages, and medications reduce the itching of the bites.

Rx FOR READERS



Making no scents

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

I find that exposure to someone wearing perfume or cologne, particularly in a confined place such as an automobile, causes choking and a headache, similar to being exposed to second-hand tobacco smoke. Is there something harmful in the perfume, and if so, is it also harmful to the person wearing the perfume? W.W., Jerusalem.

Prof. Meir Shalit, director of the allergy unit in the clinical immunology department at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, replies:

The perfume is not harmful to the person wearing it but, in your case, it apparently does provoke a reaction in your body. From your description, it seems you are hyper-reactive and suffer from non-specific irritation of the airways. This is a very common, chronic condition and usually begins in younger people.

It can be induced by inhaling vapors from cigarette smoke, acetone, gasoline, after-shave, smog, perfume and other substances with a strong odor. If you are asthmatic, or have concealed asthma, you may have to take inhalant to minimize the allergic reaction.

You can undergo tests at a respiratory or allergy clinic to find out if you have concealed asthma. The effects will dissipate as time passes after exposure. But you should try to avoid contact with perfume or cologne.

blood clot in my leg. In a few weeks, I have to travel to Australia — a very long flight from here — and consulted my doctor. He said I could fly. But is there anything I can do in the plane to avoid the formation of blood clots? Should I take aspirin to thin the blood? R.N., Rishon LeZion.

Dr. Eddie Shifrin, head of the vascular surgery unit at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, comments:

You don't provide details on whether the blood clot appeared in superficial veins under the skin or in veins deep inside the leg. The latter is much more risky and requires special treatment.

If the clot was under the skin, walking around a lot (when permitted) on the plane will help prevent the formation of clots, as will keeping your leg elevated. You should also wear elastic stockings during the flight.

If the clot affected vessels deep inside the leg, you must get two injections of Clexane, a low-molecular, slow-release heparin, which thins the blood.

One of the shots should be given the day before, and the second shot the same day of the flight. The drug is effective for 24 hours.

You must do the same on your return flight. In this case, you should wear elastic stockings during the flight as well.

Aspirin is not strong enough for this situation, and it works differently than heparin, triggering the production of prostaglandins that reduce clotting of the blood.

I am a 58-year-old woman. I once had a

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I abstain!

DAVID NEWMAN

Britain goes to the elections on Thursday. The polls are forecasting a victory by the Labour Party headed by Tony Blair. If this comes about, it will signal the end of nearly two decades of rule by a Conservative government, headed successively by the Iron Lady Margaret Thatcher and the grey figure of Prime Minister John Major.

As an ex-Brit and a political scientist, I remain deeply interested in British politics. The advent of cable TV in Israel has meant that I, like many of my fellow expatriates, are able to remain as knowledgeable of British weather, sport and politics (usually in that order) as we ever were in our past lives.

But despite my entitlement to do so, I will not be casting my vote in the elections. I no longer reside in that country, nor do I possess any taxable assets in Britain. I do not believe that I should cast a vote concerning the future direction of a country which I have opted to leave.

True, I visit there often (for the weather and sport, not the politics) and am irrationally proud of my British background. I constantly bemoan the lack of British finesse, politeness and understatement in Israeli political life. I maintain my British citizenship and have taken out the same on behalf of my sahra children. There is something of the British in my identity and mannerisms, a sort of dual cultural identity which is not something to be ashamed of and is probably present amongst most immigrants to this country.

But it is to Israel that I have tied my present and future and it is here that I use my vote in an attempt to influence the government and its policies.

There is no logical reason for trying to influence the outcome of an election being held in a coun-

There's no reason for a British expat to vote in Thursday's elections

try in which I do not reside. Unlike citizens of the US, I am not obligated to file an annual income-tax form, nor am I subject to the rules and regulations of that country for as long as I continue to live elsewhere.

I am at a loss to understand the logic behind the recent attempt by some Knesset members to allow Israelis living abroad to vote in elections here. It has nothing to do with past notions of patriotism, although it is, of course, ironical that Knesset members of the "national" party should be the main proponents of an idea which rewards those who have opted to reside elsewhere.

It is much simpler than all that. It is about where a person resides at a given point in time, where he/she works and where he/she pays his taxes and sends his children to school. It is about participating in a process which will determine the social and economic philosophies governing the effective management of the state during the coming four to five years.

The British electoral system has its faults.

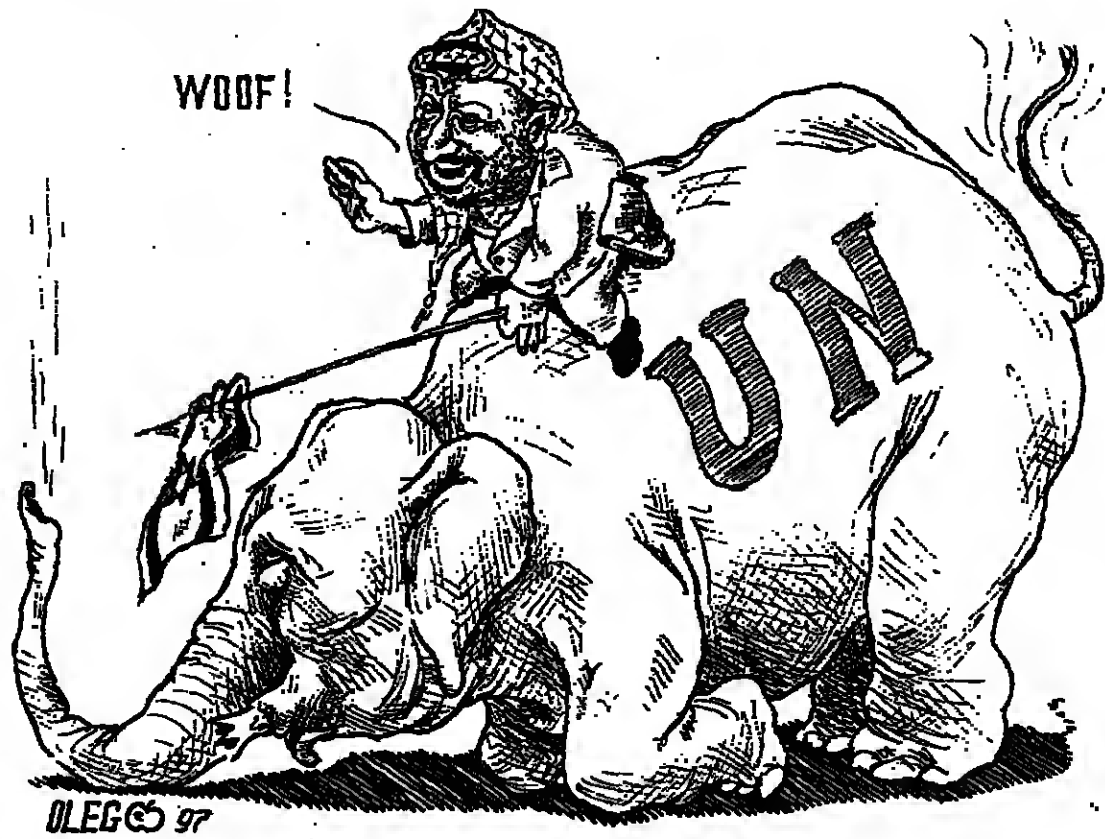
The "first past the post" system means that individual candidates do not even have to obtain 50 percent of the vote to be declared the overall winner. As a result, some parties end up with far more seats than their national vote justifies, while others end up with hardly any seats despite the fact that they may have obtained 15-20 percent of the national vote.

But the British system does enable the formation of a stable government, one which can usually run the affairs of state for a full term without having to worry about the possibility that the government may be threatened with a no-confidence motion every Monday and Thursday.

It is also a system which obligates the candidates to work on behalf of their constituents and promote the interests of the area they represent. This allows the person in the street to have a far greater influence over the choice of specific candidates, rather than leaving it in the hands of the party faithful.

It is as an outside observer that I shall take an interest in the election. And when, in 2000 - or perhaps earlier - the Israeli government is up for re-election, I will take my place in the queue at the polling booth in an attempt to influence the outcome.

The writer is professor of political geography and director of the Humphrey Institute for Social Research at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.



The American precedent

MICHAEL WIDLANSKI

The lasting legacy of an Israeli prime minister or an American president is not only seen in the actual policy he makes but in the people he appoints - some of whom will continue leaving their mark even after the man who appointed them leaves office.

We did not need the attorney-general's report on the Hasson/Avi-Yitzhak Affair (mistakenly called the Bar-On Affair) to know that Binyamin Netanyahu has so far failed miserably in his decisions on major appointments.

These failures are just cause for national debate and for Netanyahu's own personal introspection, and they will probably not be solved by appointing an "inter-ministerial committee." Unfortunately, lousy appointments may become the legacy of the Netanyahu years - from Roni Bar-On as attorney-general to Avigdor Lieberman as director-general of the Prime Minister's Office.

Indeed, Netanyahu did not have a chief of staff in his office for many months. Even today, does anybody know who is the chief of staff of Netanyahu's office: Pinhas Fishler, David Agmon, secretary Ruhama Avraham or economic advisor Moshe Leon? Does anybody know how much time it will take Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy to decide who will be Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, or who will fill dozens of other major diplomatic appointments?

This abysmal record, however, is not cause for prosecution or removal from office for "public causes," i.e. what the US Constitution calls "high crimes and misdemeanors." Because the Israeli prime ministry may be evolving into something that seems more "presidential," it is only fair to recall that presidents Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush and Bill Clinton all made terrible appointments - some of them far more dangerous than Roni Bar-On.

Nixon tried to appoint G. Harold Carswell and Clement Haynsworth to the Supreme Court, but both men were such laughable choices that Nixon, or rather his backer Senator Roman Hruska of Nebraska, argued that "even the mediocre need to be represented on the Supreme Court."

Some may argue that, by appointing Bar-On, Netanyahu

was trying to do the same thing - adding a little mediocrity. Such an argument, however, is not fair. It is clear that Netanyahu and Justice Minister Henegbi wanted to broaden the ideological purview of the judiciary by appointing men with a criminal-law background from the private sector as well as men who are more familiar with Jewish law

When it comes to bad appointments, the PM is following in Reagan and Clinton's footsteps

(such as Ya'acov Ne'eman).

This, as even Attorney-General Rubinstein suggested in his oral remarks, is a legitimate concern. An examination of the opinions of the Supreme Court and the state attorney's office in the last decade would show that the intellectual/ideological framework of both has become far too narrow. A recent survey of the opinions of Supreme Court Justice Aharon Barak found no quotes from the Talmud or from rabbinic responsa, but allusions to legal decisions in places as relevant as Burma and Sri Lanka.

It is no wonder that *Ma'ariv* columnist Ben-Dror Yemini has called Barak's court "a secular priesthood" and a self-perpetuating elite. Even casual observers see what is in effect a closed clique drawn from university seminars and clerkships.

But Netanyahu-Henegbi's method of broadening the judiciary - both the choice and the way it was brought for cabinet approval - was seriously flawed. Maybe they were copying Clinton.

Clinton's choices for attorney-general - Zoe Baird and Janet Reno - were an outrage. The former was withdrawn while the latter has presided over several incredible fiascos involving the FBI's killing of innocent people as well as turning a blind eye to some of the more obvious scandals in the Clinton White House.

Clinton's own White House counsel staff has included several people who were either indicted, near indictment or committed suicide such as Hillary Clinton's friend, Vince Foster. Are these

reason enough to impeach Clinton or throw him out of office? No.

Like Netanyahu, Clinton was directly elected by the people, and overruling the people's will is not done lightly; in Clinton's case, not even after the Whitewater Affair, the Filegate scandal (keeping FBI files on opponents), the Travelgate imbroglio or the latest Indo-gate affair that involves allowing a say in American policy to Indonesian businessmen who contributed to the Clinton campaign.

The taint of corruption on the Clinton White House has become so severe that Clinton even had to withdraw the nomination of Anthony Lake as head of the CIA because he may have been involved in the Indo-gate affair.

No such level of corruption has tainted Netanyahu so far, and his record looks more like that of Ronald Reagan in his first years in office. The well-meaning but inexperienced Reagan went through four national security advisors in a matter of months: Richard Allen, Robert MacFarlane, John Poindexter and Judge William Clark.

The first three were involved with scandals ranging from Korea to Iran-Contragate assistance, while the latter could not even name the capital of South Africa at his confirmation hearings. Reagan also made the somewhat failed appointment of Alexander Haig, who lasted for less than two years as secretary of state. The level of chaos at the White House only abated after Reagan named James Baker as chief of staff.

This same bumbling president finally took control of his affairs, presiding over the longest period of peacetime prosperity in American history as well as the disintegration of "the Evil Empire" - the Soviet Union.

Many self-styled "intellectuals" make fun of Netanyahu (in much the way they made fun of Reagan) calling him a good-looking but disorganized and superficial leader whose only gift is reading texts well before a television camera. But if Netanyahu can learn - and internalize (to use another of Elyakim Rubinstein's terms) - the imperative to make serious staffing decisions and policy appointments, he may yet defy the smug prognostications of his opponents - just as Reagan did.

The writer lectures on political science and journalism at the Hebrew University.

POSTSCRIPTS

"PROSTITUTES APPEAL TO POPE" that sort of "two-headed monster" headline makes for gleeful reading, but it's not always possible to verify they actually existed. Nevertheless, we're presenting this list of wacky, badly-worded and stating-the-obvious headlines excerpted from the "Notebook" pages of *The New Republic*:

- Study Finds Sex, Pregnancy Link (*Cornell Daily Sun*, 7/12/95)
- Survey Finds Dirtier Subways After Cleaning Jobs Were Cut (*The New York Times*, 22/11/95)
- Alcohol Ads Promote Drinking (*The Hartford Courant*, 18/11/95)
- Malls Try to Attract Shoppers (*Baltimore Sun*, 22/10/95)
- Man Shoots Neighbor With Mache (*Miami Herald*, 3/7/95)

THE GROOM came by Rolls Royce, the bride in a helicopter. Hundreds of VIP guests pressed in to get a closer look at the starry-eyed couple, a pair of bewildered cats.

Any celebrity would have been proud of the sumptuous 700,000 baht (\$28,000) wedding. After the ceremony, the pair, Phet and Ploy, were sent on a honeymoon river cruise - to be followed by visits to the vet.

Organizer Vicharn Jarat-archa decided to stage the elaborate wedding because his cosmetics company started to do a roaring

business right after he found Phet. The male part-Siamese cat had a "diamond eye," which some Thais regard as a lucky omen. Actually, the condition is a type of glaucoma. A hard, blue film develops over the eye, leaving the cat blind unless treated in its early stages. For some cats the disease can be painful.

Perhaps hoping to double his good fortune, Vicharn later returned to the same place and found Ploy, a female with the same eye condition, and began planning a love match.

Vicharn has promised not only to have their eyes looked after but to donate all proceeds, including wedding gifts from his rich guests, to animal welfare charities.

At the wedding, Phet wore a specially made red tuxedo while Ploy was attired in a white wedding gown. Rings were made to fit their paws. The 500 human guests including government officials and a parrot named Little Emerald, who served as best man. An iguana called Naughty Girl was the maid of honor.

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Testing time for Turkey

Two ministers resigned over the weekend from the Turkish government run by Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, heralding the latest crisis with this 10-month-old and first-ever Islamist-led government. Erbakan not only appears bent on destroying the much-admired secular basis of the Turkish state, but he also appears to have little regard for his own political survival.

Two months ago, increasingly angry military chiefs gave Erbakan an unvarnished warning to roll back his efforts to introduce fundamentalist Islam into the state. The prime minister has all but ignored the 18-point plan presented to him by the military and secular leaders of Turkey, prompting the departure of the two ministers of the secular True Path. Most blatantly, Erbakan refused to implement one element of the plan drawn up by the National Security Council - a demand that state secular education be increased to eight years from five. This key provision is the basis of an education policy that would phase out religious middle schools and make it harder for graduates of religious schools to enter universities.

Some half a million students now attend religious middle and high schools - supposed to be imam training-schools. The National Security Council demanded that enrollment in such schools be scaled back to accommodate only students who genuinely wish to become clerics. One of the resigning ministers warned that Erbakan's policies are a danger to the state and to democracy. There is little doubt this is correct and the sooner this inept and dangerous prime minister is relieved of office, the better for democracy, for Turkey, and its relations with its neighbors.

Among the factors adding up to the latest crisis was Erbakan's churlish treatment of Foreign Minister David Levy on his recent visit to Turkey. The country's new friendship and bilateral military and economic agreements with Israel are taken extremely seriously by the powerful Turkish military elite. Erbakan's first refusal to meet Israel's foreign minister infuriated the military. But when he was forced to meet Levy, his truculent rudeness merely added insult to injury. "Israel should immediately withdraw from lands it has occupied for years," said Erbakan. "Plans to establish new settlements should be aborted." Israel is used to similar comments from foreign statesmen, but they are usually made in the good faith of evolved foreign policy. In Erbakan's case, not only was the comment aimed at pleasing radical Arab states and his new-found friends in Teheran, it was laughable in its hypocrisy. The major international gripe against Turkey is its forceful occupation of one-third of Cyprus. Levy lost a fine opportunity to put Erbakan in his place by reminding him that Turkey has imposed 80,000 unwanted mainland settlers on the Cypriots - and settled them in the homes and properties stolen from Greek Cypriots who were forcibly driven from their ancestral homelands in northern Cyprus at gunpoint in 1974. These are indeed "lands occupied for years" and the resolution of the invasion and occupation of Cyprus

should concern the Erbakan government considerably more than the disagreements between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Erbakan is putting his country in an extremely dangerous bind. Kemal Ataturk so deeply ingrained secularism in the Turkish state that, if not the national religion, it certainly has been the official national philosophy and the bedrock of the state constitution. It was a brave and miraculous forced modernization that swept Turkey out of Ottoman decline and decay into the new 20th century. Ataturk saved his country from the fate of all the Arab Islamic states in the region, which cannot boast one democracy among them. It put Turkey on the threshold of modern Europe for, without its exemplary separation of mosque and state, there is no way the European Union could even consider an association with Turkey.

All of this is now being put at risk by a boorish and narrow-minded Islamist who seems to think Turkey's place is among the ayatollahs and regressive pariahs of the Middle East, rather than among the educated and enlightened democracies preparing to march into the 21st century. Turkey has enough problems to overcome. It has not yet become entirely acceptable to Europe, because of its patchy human rights and shaky police standards - as well as its occupation of Cyprus and long war against the Kurds. No country is perfect and under secular governments Turkey's problems are not insurmountable. Its record has advanced and improved all the time, and it has been a loyal ally to its Western friends and a remarkable example of a style of democracy Moslems can accept without undermining their religious beliefs.

Even if Erbakan's Islamization program did not ruin Turkey by turning it into another vicious, primitive, and divided Algeria - it could still ruin Turkey if the military becomes convinced the only way to stop Erbakan is to intervene. Turkey's choice is getting ironically close to losing democracy to Islamization, or losing democracy by crushing Islamization. Turkey simply cannot afford another coup. Even if it were swift, bloodless, and short, it would set the country back decades. Turkey's critics, such as the Greeks and Cypriots and their supporters in Europe, would simply point out that Turkey always ends up calling out the tanks. This is not the way real democracies solve political crises, and Turkey could kiss any hope of joining the European Union good-bye for a very long time indeed.

This seems to be well-understood in Ankara and this weekend's new meeting of the National Security Council to pressure Erbakan could be the last chance to persuade him to put his Islamic radicals back in the closet. In fact, Erbakan should simply quit. By his populist rousing of the fundamentalist menace in Turkey he is doing his country a disservice unprecedented since Ataturk's visionary leap forward. Erbakan is committed only to a great leap backward under the same dangerous delusion as Algeria and Iran that fundamentalism is the wave of the future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ASTUTE VIEWS

Sir, - God bless Jan Willem van der Hoeven (Letters, April 2). Once again, his unique clarity in assessing our situation shines out. Were it only possible for our own brethren to espouse such factual, unbiased, rational, logical, fair-minded and astute views! We would at least gather strength and pride as a nation. We could then present a united front to the world at large, the same as the Palestinians do.

NAOMI FEINSTEIN

Netanya.

RUDE RESPONSE

Sir, - On a recent Shabbat, I paid a visit to the Helena Rubinstein Pavilion at the Tel Aviv Museum and was very disgusted by the state of the toilets. I made the stupid mistake of complaining to the man at the main entrance, who told me to clean them myself, if I was not satisfied, and offered to give me a bucket of water. This was unbefitting of museum personnel and I told him so in so many words. He just turned his back on me.

J. ROSENBERG

Tel Aviv.

FULL QUOTE

Sir, - It is a pity that Rabbi Michael Lerner ("On transcending tribalism," April 2) did not quote the prophet Isaiah's full statement, found in chapter 56, verse 7: "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." Isaiah's point was not, as implied by Mr. Lerner's incomplete quotation, the internationalization of Jerusalem, but that it become a center for prayer.

SUSAN WIESMAN

Jerusalem.

JEWISH VALUES

Sir, - Yosef Lapid's cry for the secular population to act in a more principled manner ("Apathetic Mr. Average Israeli," April 11) is interesting as far as it goes. Apparently, the principles involved are living an unhindered 20th-century lifestyle, i.e., businesses open on the Sabbath, cheap non-kosher meat imported, and non-Jews accepted into our exclusive club in the same manner as Frenchmen "convert" into Englishmen, and Chinese "convert" into Americans - that is, by a declaration that they will pay allegiance to our "secular" flag, and also like bagels and lox. Certainly the synagogue-attending Conservative and Reform Jews

REFORM JEWS

Jew even if he wants to. It is only Reform converts who, having not converted halachically, are not Jewish. The *Los Angeles Times*, where the misleading article appeared originally, has subsequently apologized for it. It would be appropriate if the Reform movement would indicate that it has finally understood the above distinction, and it undertakes to stop trying to pretend that the Orthodox have, in the words of Ms. Glaser, "de-jewed" all irreligious Jews.

J.D. HOOL

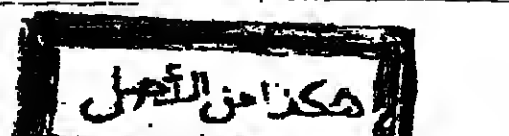
Jerusalem.

REVERSE EXODUS

Burka still lingers and rankles. But Israelis flock to Egypt. What perverseness and lack of national pride prompt us to go where, except as cash cows, we are neither wanted nor welcomed?

RENA GORDON

Jerusalem.



ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

Table listing Israeli shares in New York with columns for stock name, last price, and change. Includes AMEX and NASDAQ sections.

Table listing various Israeli companies with columns for last price and change.

Table listing various Israeli companies with columns for last price and change.

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Table listing various Israeli companies with columns for last price and change.

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INTERNATIONAL SHARES

Table listing international shares in New York with columns for stock name, last price, and change.

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WALL STREET

NY stocks drop sharply

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Stocks fell sharply on Friday, as investors braced for a series of economic reports this week that are likely to clarify the outlook for interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 53.38 points, or 0.8 percent, to 6,738.87, after sliding more than 60 points earlier in light trading.

The Dow's drop trimmed its gain to 35.32 points for the week, as blue chips dipped in each of the three sessions after jumping 173 points on Tuesday in the 30-stock index's second-largest point gain ever.

In the broader market, declining issues outnumbered gainers by 1,658 to 795 on volume of 414 million the New York Stock Exchange.

"Basically, attention is focused on [this] week," said Jack Shaughnessy, director of research at Advest, "and [this] week is truly going to be hell week."

Investors appeared increasingly reluctant to bid up stocks just ahead of reports on employment and wages, gross domestic product, the National Association of Purchasing Management index and the Employment Cost Index, a key wage inflation gauge.

"We've got a bushel basket of important economic data [this] week that will largely confirm whether or not [Fed] Chairman Greenspan will follow through with a second monetary tightening," said Phil Orlando, chief investment officer at Value Line Asset Management.

The Nasdaq Composite index fell 18.81 points to 1,209.29, down 13.28 on the week. Bonds edged lower, with the 30-year Treasury down 4/32, or \$1.25 on a \$1,000 bond, raising its yield to 7.14 percent from Thursday's close of 7.13 percent.

The price and yield move in opposite directions. Analysts said the fact that investors were again focused on the economy and interest rates meant that stocks' brief bounce, which was inspired by strong quarterly earnings, maybe over.

"Earnings have been a plus on balance," said Greg Nie, technical analyst at Everen Securities. "I'd rather be in a market paying attention to earnings than interest rates." The result is likely to be a market that resumes a jagged sideways pattern, they said, with little chance of near-term advances unless there is a clear signal that economic growth is moderating.

The Standard & Poor's composite index of 500 stocks fell 5.81 points to 765.37, down 0.97 on the week. The American Stock Exchange index edged down 1.12 to 542.83, off 13.18 from last Friday.

The NYSE Composite index of all listed common stocks fell 3.24 to 400.38. The NYSE Composite fell 3.24 to 400.38.

Table titled 'Key Representative Rates' showing US Dollar, Sterling, and Mark rates.

Table titled 'NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES' showing various market indices.

Table titled 'OTHER MARKET INDEXES' showing various international market indices.

Table titled 'DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)' showing exchange rates for various currencies.

Table titled 'US COMMODITIES' showing prices for various commodities.

Table titled 'LONDON COMMODITIES' showing prices for various commodities in London.

Table titled 'SPOT MARKET METALS (US)' showing prices for various metals.

Table titled 'NEW YORK METAL FUTURES' showing prices for various metal futures.

Table titled 'LONDON METAL FIXES' showing prices for various metal fixes in London.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Table showing Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) for various currencies and terms.

Table showing Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates for various currencies.

Table showing CHECKS AND TRANSFERS for various banks and currencies.

Table showing BANKNOTES for various banks and currencies.

Table showing REP. for various banks and currencies.

Table showing FRANKFURT for various banks and currencies.

Table showing PARIS for various banks and currencies.

Table showing LONDON for various banks and currencies.

Table showing FRANKFURT for various banks and currencies.

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DRIVE CAREFULLY



Labor leader Shimon Peres signs a petition in Jerusalem on Friday calling for a commission of inquiry into the Bar-On Affair. (AP)

Peres, Barak meet with Shas mentor Yosef

By SARAH HONG and news agencies

Labor Chairman Shimon Peres spent an hour with Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef on Friday, ostensibly to wish him a happy holiday. Peres said the meeting focused on how to avoid a rift in the Israeli public over ethnic issues. "I don't see anyone racing to hold early elections," Peres told Israel Radio.

Yosef reportedly told Peres that he does not foresee any rift in the nation, although he criticized the decision by Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to prosecute only Shas MK Aryeh Deri for his role in the Bar-On Affair.

Peres preceded a day earlier by his chief rival in Labor, MK Ehud Barak, who also spent an hour with Yosef. Both Peres and Barak reportedly told Yosef they share Shas's chagrin at the fact that so far Deri alone was charged.

"Using the language of 'us and them' is dangerous... allowing this to become an issue of hatred between Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews is

asking for disaster," Barak said on Channel 1. Barak argued after his session with Yosef that "it is clear to all and sundry that Netanyahu is far more guilty than Deri and that [Justice Minister Tzahi] Hanegbi, from another direction, is no less guilty than Deri. That Netanyahu and Hanegbi should get off and that Deri should be left holding the bag is unthinkable."

Peres, too, argues that "the prosecution's report leaves a lot of questions. It would seem that if Deri tried to extort, then someone was extorted. They were all in it together." Peres reiterated his demand that Netanyahu resign immediately and call new elections.

Opposition leaders have demanded that Netanyahu step down and left-wing supporters have been collecting 1,500 signatures this week on a petition demanding the establishment of an official commission of inquiry. Peres signed the petition Friday.

Over the weekend Labor sent demonstrators to many major junctions around the country and filled them with posters and banners saying

"Bibi is a danger" and "Bibi wins through corruption." Many of the protesters at the same time issued Labor leadership primary campaign material to passersby.

Labor leadership candidate Ephraim Sneh outdid his competitors by sending a van across the country to circulate a petition he is sponsoring, calling for the establishment of an inquiry commission to look into the Bar-On Affair.

In the meantime, Deri's supporters were circulating a petition among lawmakers from all parties to urge prosecutors to reverse their decision to indict the Shas leader.

Meanwhile both large parties were abuzz with rumors that Arthur Finkelstein, the American who advised Netanyahu on campaign strategy for the last elections, had paid a secret visit to the country again last week, just prior to the publication of the state attorney's findings. He reportedly gave the prime minister tips on how to put his message across on the affair and left before the decision was made public.

Levine: North safe for touring

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The heavy Hezbollah rocket and mortar attack on IDF and SLA positions in the security zone Friday was a "passing event" and the Galilee remains safe for Pessah vacationers, OC Northern Command, Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine said Friday.

IDF forces remained on high alert over the weekend, but no further shelling took place.

Early Friday, Hizbullah gunmen opened up along the entire front, firing mortars and Katyusha rockets at IDF and SLA positions. A few 120-mm. mortar rounds hit inside Israel, landing near an IDF position next to Kibbutz Menara, Levine said. No Katyushas landed in Israel.

It was the third known cross-border attack by Hizbullah since the year-old Grapes of Wrath understandings were reached. Two soldiers were wounded in the shelling, one very lightly and the other suffering moderate to light wounds, Levine said.

The more seriously wounded soldier, Sgt. Amos Hadad, 20, told Channel 1 that he was hit in the shoulder by shrapnel at the fort near Menara. Speaking from his hospital bed in Haifa's Rambam Hospital, Hadad said he was operating a radio in a jeep when he was wounded.

In a calming message to vacationers, Levine said visitors to the North should not change their travel plans.

Speaking to reporters after the shelling, Levine said that there appeared to be no special reason for the barrage. However, it coincided with the first anniversary of the Kafir Kana tragedy, in which IDF artillery hit a UN post crowded with Lebanese refugees, killing

over 100 people.

In Beirut, Hizbullah admitted its "backup firing units," a euphemism for its rocket and mortar squads, launched the barrages. It added that they deliberately targeted IDF and SLA positions and not Lebanese or Israeli villages. It said the positions at Blair and Abbad, both about 500 meters inside the security zone from the northern border, were targeted. Levine said the IDF and SLA returned "restrained" fire toward the suspected Hizbullah hideouts, so as not to escalate tensions.

Lebanese security officials said Israeli artillery and mortar fire topped about 130 shells.

Levine said Hizbullah had launched its attack from inside Lebanese villages and this was a "flagrant violation" of the US-brokered understandings reached following the Grapes of Wrath operation.

Israel lodged a complaint with the head of the five-nation monitoring group and the monitors are to meet in Nakoura on Tuesday to discuss the complaint, the army said.

The Hizbullah attacks were launched from the villages of Shakra and Zibkine in the hills southeast of Tyre, reports from Lebanon said. These villages are about 8 kilometers from the border.

Levine said that the Katyushas fired hit close to an SLA position near Marjayoun, but that none of the Hizbullah fire landed in any villages.

Friday morning's hostilities came a day after a report quoting Lebanese officials that said two civilians were wounded in artillery fire and fire from Israeli helicopter gunships.

But security officials in south Lebanon said the civilians were hit by a stray guerrilla shell that targeted an SLA outpost.

WEATHER

Haifa	12-19
Tiberias	12-21
Afula	10-22
Safed	10-11
Tel Aviv	13-19
Jerusalem	9-17
Beer Sheva	10-19
Dead Sea	10-22
Eilat	18-22

Today and tomorrow: Partly cloudy with lower temperatures than normal. Slight chance of rain in North.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	10	14	cloudy
Berlin	10	15	cloudy
Buenos Aires	17	23	partly cloudy
Calcutta	24	30	partly cloudy
Chicago	10	15	partly cloudy
Copenhagen	10	15	partly cloudy
Hankou	11	16	partly cloudy
Hong Kong	20	26	partly cloudy
London	10	15	partly cloudy
Los Angeles	11	16	partly cloudy
Madrid	10	15	partly cloudy
Manila	24	30	partly cloudy
Montreal	10	15	partly cloudy
Moscow	10	15	partly cloudy
New York	10	15	partly cloudy
Paris	10	15	partly cloudy
Rome	10	15	partly cloudy
Stockholm	10	15	partly cloudy
Sydney	10	15	partly cloudy
Tokyo	10	15	partly cloudy
Toronto	10	15	partly cloudy
Vienna	10	15	partly cloudy
Zurich	10	15	partly cloudy

Winning cards

In Friday's Mifal Hapayis Chance draw, the lucky cards were the king of spades, nine of hearts, seven of diamonds, and 10 of clubs.

Intruders kill 12 dogs in Jerusalem shelter

By LIAT COLLINS

Twelve dogs were killed Friday by intruders who broke into the Jerusalem Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals shelter in Atarot. The carcasses were sent for forensic testing, but preliminary reports indicate possible poisoning.

The police are investigating different motives, including the possibility it was a nationalist-motivated attack by residents of a nearby village who wanted to harm Jewish property.

Although there has been a series of break-ins at the site in recent months, this is the first time animals have been killed.

The JSPCA, a voluntary organization, is suffering from severe financial problems and recently stopped hiring a night watchman because of the cost.

JSPCA veterinarian Dr. Tamar Ben-Tzvi called the incident "serious and upsetting." "You have to be a very sick person to deliberately set out to kill helpless creatures in a brutal manner," she said.

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